Work Session Minutes Council Chambers Monongahela, PA May 9, 2022

Minutes for May 9, 2022 Work Session, gaveled into session at 8:30 a.m. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Garry who led in the pledge to the Flag.

Christine Solmales, 808 West Main Street, questioning the demolition of the Ninth Street house and that John Barnes would like to purchase it and how can it be sold if it is on the demolition list. The residents have been asking for help with this property for the last ten years.

Councilwoman O'Brien stated that she has spoken to him and he is in the process of purchasing the property. That he would have to take ownership of the property and then come back to the City to complete the necessary paperwork.

Councilman Kulak stated that to the best of his recollection the City was expending county monies that they need to get clearances with any CDBG monies spent. He understood that PHMC stated it was in a historic neighborhood which red flagged and stopped the demolition until some clearance is given to spend the money to take this house down. Prior to COVID the City wanted to use CDBG monies to demo the house and the City had to get an asbestos report and the monies earmarked for demolition did not cover the asbestos removal. There was a problem with who actually owned the property and who has the authority to sell it.

Ms. Somales informed council of the Brickley property behind her that the last tenants were employees of the owner who lived there for free and when the owner put them out they destroyed the property by leaving the water running and parts of the second floor has now collapsed to the first floor. She asked if there was anything in the Zoning Ordinance addressing employee or migrant housing.

She was informed that there was nothing in the City's Zoning Ordinance that addresses these issues and federal regulations may play a part on if the City could regulate this type of housing.

Terry Necciai, 400 Meade Street, representing the Monongahela Main Street Program and the Monongahela Area Library informed council of the Mounds Fest over the weekend, the Walkability Grant he would like the City to apply for, the monies that will be coming for the Façade Program, the World of Chocolate event on Saturday, and new businesses coming to town.

George Eckert representing the Mid Mon Valley Transit Authority informed council monies they were to receive from the County which the Authority applied for eight weeks ago and still haven't heard anything from the County and as stated before the amount they will be receiving is less than what they were originally informed they would be receiving.

Councilwoman O'Brien informed council that some grants have been filled out for the street lights, rental inspections need done, building permit fees will not be raised at this time, she has the letters of support for the Planning Commission and will be making appointments Wednesday, and she spoke to Lee and one of the Marina's will be donating a dock bin to be put at the Mounds for people to donate gloves, balls, etc. will be chained to the fence

Councilman Miller stated they are looking to appoint a new foreman when Mr. Gadd retires, hiring of a new laborer, and the veteran's banners will be up by Memorial Day.

Councilman Mizwa stated that they found someone for the part-time Parks & Property laborer and will be hiring on Wednesday and updated council on the Mounds Fest that was held over the weekend.

The City Engineer asked if council had reviewed his e-mail regarding the Wall Street Bridge report from the state and PennDot is stating that there was paperwork from the 90's that states the City elected to maintain ownership and maintenance on it going forward. The report does point out several repairs that need to be made and costs associated with those items.

Mark Gadd stated he spoke to former Mayor Cole who was the Mayor at the time and he stated that he felt that the City was responsible for is the blacktop from approach to approach and that is what we have been going by all these years.

Rental Inspector Fritch wanted to clarify the comments made on the Brickley property. This property had their inspection completed but that doesn't mean they have the ok for people to live in the house. There is pass fail inspection and the inspection has to be done annually.

He then stated that they receive a lot of calls on rats. We live by a river, sewers, woods, creeks and people that leave their trash out three or four days in advance with no lids on the cans and you are